

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	:	
	:	
-v-	:	18-CR-319 (LTS)
	:	
YASMIL FERTIDES,	:	<u>ORDER</u>
	:	
Defendant.	:	
	:	
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LAURA TAYLOR SWAIN, Chief United States District Judge:

The change of plea hearing scheduled for May 7, 2021, at 11:00 a.m., will proceed as a videoconference using the CourtCall platform. As requested, defense counsel will be given an opportunity to speak with the Defendant by telephone for fifteen minutes before the hearing begins (i.e., at **10:45 a.m.**); defense counsel should make sure to answer the telephone number that was previously provided to Chambers at that time.

To optimize the quality of the video feed, only the Court, the Defendant, defense counsel, and counsel for the Government will appear by video for the proceeding; all others will participate by telephone. Due to the limited capacity of the CourtCall system, only one counsel per party may participate. Co-counsel, members of the press, and the public may access the audio feed of the hearing by calling 855-268-7844 and using access code 67812309# and PIN 9921299#.

In advance of the hearing, Chambers will email the parties with further information on how to access the hearing. Those participating by video will be provided a link to be pasted into their browser. **The link is non-transferrable and can be used by only one**

person; further, it should be used **only** at the time of the hearing because using it earlier could result in disruptions to other proceedings.

To optimize use of the CourtCall technology, all those participating by video should:

1. Use the most recent version of Firefox, Chrome, or Safari as the web browser. Do **not** use Internet Explorer.
2. Use hard-wired internet or WiFi. If using WiFi, the device should be positioned as close to the Wi-Fi router as possible to ensure a strong signal. (Weak signals may cause delays or dropped feeds.)
3. Minimize the number of others using the same WiFi router during the hearing.

Further, all participants must identify themselves every time they speak, spell any proper names for the court reporter, and take care not to interrupt or speak over one another. Finally, all of those accessing the hearing — whether in listen-only mode or otherwise — are reminded that recording or rebroadcasting of the proceeding is prohibited. See Standing Order M-10-468, No. 21-MC-45 (S.D.N.Y. Jan. 19, 2021).

If CourtCall does not work well enough and the Court decides to transition to its teleconference line, counsel should call 888-363-4734 and use access code 1527005# and security code 1866#. (Members of the press and public may call the same number, but will not be permitted to speak during the hearing.) In that event, counsel should adhere to the following rules and guidelines during the hearing:

1. Each party should designate a single lawyer to speak on its behalf (including when noting the appearances of other counsel on the telephone).
2. Counsel should use a landline whenever possible, should use a headset instead of a speakerphone, and must mute themselves whenever they are not speaking to eliminate background noise. In addition, counsel should not use voice-activated systems that do not allow the user to know when someone else is trying to speak at the same time.

3. To facilitate an orderly teleconference and the creation of an accurate transcript, counsel are *required* to identify themselves every time they speak. Counsel should spell any proper names for the court reporter. Counsel should also take special care not to interrupt or speak over one another.
4. If there is a beep or chime indicating that a new caller has joined while counsel is speaking, counsel should pause to allow the Court to ascertain the identity of the new participant and confirm that the court reporter has not been dropped from the call.

All other provisions of the Court's Order dated April 12, 2021 (docket entry no. 376) remain in effect.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: April 29, 2021
New York, New York

/s/ Laura Taylor Swain
Laura Taylor Swain
Chief United States District Judge